

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A recombinant HHV-viral ~~virus~~-vector that ~~originates in HHV-6 and includes including~~ an exogenous nucleotide sequence within the full-length sequence of HHV-6 Variant B in a portion corresponding to at least one region selected from the group consisting of U2, U3, U4, U5, U6, U7, U8, U24, and U25 regions of HHV-6 located in (i) a region corresponding to the U2 through U8 region of HHV-6 or (ii) a region corresponding to the U24 and U25 region of HHV-6.

2. (Amended) A ~~The~~ recombinant HHV-viral ~~virus~~-vector as set forth in claim 1 wherein:

the regions corresponding to the U2 through U8 regions of HHV-6 exist between nucleotide numbers 9041 and 17446 of the HHV-6 DNA sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 1, and

the regions corresponding to the U24 and U25 regions of HHV-6 exist between nucleotide numbers 36250 and 37775 of the HHV-6 DNA sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 1.

~~said portion exists between nucleotide numbers 9041 and 17446, or between nucleotide numbers 36250 and 37775 of a HHV-6 DNA sequence as represented by SEQ ID NO: 1.~~

3. (Canceled)

4-6. (Withdrawn)

7. (Amended) A ~~The~~ recombinant ~~virus~~ HHV-viral vector as set forth in claim 1 ~~or~~ 4, wherein the exogenous nucleotide sequence is a DNA sequence ~~and/or RNA sequence.~~

8. (Amended) The recombinant ~~virus~~-vector as set forth in claim 7, wherein the exogenous nucleotide sequence encodes ~~at least one kind of substance a~~ biomolecule selected from the group consisting of a bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC), a cytokine gene, a ribozyme, an interference RNA, an immunological co-stimulator molecule, a signal transduction molecule, an enzyme, and a chemical attractant.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The recombinant HHV-viral virus~~ vector as set forth in claim 7, wherein the exogenous nucleotide sequence is used for gene therapy of mammals.

11. (Amended) A method of producing ~~method of~~ a recombinant ~~virus~~ HHV-viral vector ~~that originates in HHV-6,~~

said method comprising the step of inserting an exogenous nucleotide sequence into a full-length sequence of an HHV-6 Variant B in (i) a region corresponding to the U2 through U8 regions of HHV-6 or (ii) a region corresponding to the U24 and U25 regions of the HHV-6, in a full-length sequence of an HHV-6 Variant Ba ~~portion corresponding to at least one region selected from the group consisting of U2, U3, U4, U5, U6, U7, U8, U24, and U25 regions of HHV-6.~~

12. (Amended) ~~A-The method producing of producing~~ method of a recombinant virus vector as set forth in claim 11, wherein:

in the step of inserting an exogenous nucleotide sequence in the regions corresponding to the U2 through U8 regions of the HHV-6, the exogenous nucleotide sequence is inserted between nucleotide numbers 9041 and 17446 of the HHV-6 DNA sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 1, and

in the step of inserting an exogenous nucleotide sequence in the regions corresponding to the U24 and U25 regions of the HHV-6, the exogenous nucleotide sequence is inserted between nucleotide numbers 36250 and 37775 of the HHV-6 DNA sequence presented in SEQ ID NO: 1.

~~in the step of inserting an exogenous nucleotide sequence, the exogenous nucleotide sequence is inserted between nucleotide numbers 9041 and 17446, or between nucleotide numbers 36250 and 37775 of a HHV-6 DNA sequence as represented by SEQ ID NO: 1.~~

13. (Amended) ~~A-The producing method of~~ producing a recombinant ~~virus~~ HHV-viral vector as set forth in claim 11, wherein:

in the step of inserting an exogenous nucleotide sequence in the regions corresponding to the U2 through U8 regions of the HHV-6, homologous recombination is carried out between the HHV-6 DNA sequence and a DNA sequence that is amplified with a set of primers presented in SEQ ID NO: 3-4 and SEQ ID NO: 5-6, and

in the step of inserting an exogenous nucleotide sequence in the regions corresponding to the U24 and U25 regions of the HHV-6, homologous recombination is carried out between the HHV-6 DNA sequence and a DNA sequence that is amplified with a set of primers presented in SEQ ID NO: 36-37 and SEQ ID NO: 38-39.

~~in the step of inserting an exogenous nucleotide sequence, homologous recombination is carried out between a HHV-6 DNA sequence and a DNA sequence that is amplified with a set of primers of sequences represented by SEQ ID NO: 3-4 and SEQ ID NO: 5-6, or a set of primers of sequences represented by SEQ ID NO: 36-37 and SEQ ID NO: 38-39.~~

14-16. (Withdrawn)

17. (Amended) A ~~The producing method of producing a recombinant virus~~ HHV-viral vector as set forth in claim 11 or 14, wherein, in the step of inserting an exogenous nucleotide sequence in the regions corresponding to the U2 through U8 regions of the HHV-6 or in the regions corresponding to the U24 and U25 regions of the HHV-6, the exogenous nucleotide sequence is inserted inside a normal cell and/or an a normal umbilical cord blood cell.

18-26 (Withdrawn)